

Conservation Trees and Shrubs for **MONTANA**





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Deciduous Shrubs

	20-year Height (ft.)	Actual Crown Width (ft.)	Growth Rate	Drought Tolerance Min. Prec. (in.)	Saline/Alkali	Soils Tolerance	Nesting	Food	Cover	Browse
Almond, Russian	4	6	M	G-12	F	E	E	F	F	F
Buffaloberry, Silver	10	7	M	E-8	E	E	E	E	E	E
Caragana	12	12	R	E-8	G	E	F	F	F	P
Cherry, Nanking	7	8	M	G-10	F	E	E	F	F	E
Chokecherry, Common	10	9	M	G-10	F	E	E	E	E	F
Cotoneaster, Centennial	10	4	M	G-10	F	E	E	F	F	P
Currant, Golden	6	5	M	G-11	F	G	G	F	F	G
Dogwood, Redosier	7	6	R	P-18	P	E	F	E	E	G
Honeysuckle, Blueleaf	8	8	M	G-12	F	E	E	G	P	P
Lilac, Common	6	7	M	E-9	F	E	P	E	E	P
Plum, American	10	9	M	G-10	F	E	G	G	E	E
Rose, Woods	6	6	M	F-14	P	E	E	E	E	E
Sandcherry, Western	4	6	M	G-10	F	G	E	F	F	F
Serviceberry, Saskatoon	10	8	M	G-12	F	G	E	G	G	G
Silverberry	6	6	M	G-12	F	G	G	F	F	F
Sumac, Skunkbush	8	5	S	E-8	F	E	F	E	E	G

Deciduous Trees

Ash, Green	18	11	M	G-10	F	G	F	F	F	G
Cottonwood, Plains	45	25	R	F-15	F	F	P	P	P	F
Crabapple, Siberian	15	14	M	G-12	F	F	G	F	F	F
Elm, Siberian	25	19	R	G-12	G	F	F	P	P	P
Hackberry, Common	15	10	M	G-12	G	F	F	F	F	F
Hawthorn, Arnold	16	12	M	G-12	F	E	G	G	F	F
Honeylocust	20	11	M	G-12	F	F	F	P	P	P
Maple, Amur	15	10	M	G-12	P	F	P	F	F	F
Oak, Bur	18	15	M	G-10	F	F	G	F	F	G
Olive, Russian	17	15	R	E-8	E	E	E	F	P	P
Poplar, White	25	19	R	G-12	F	F	P	P	P	F
Willow, Golden	25	13	R	F-13	F	F	F	F	F	F

Conifers

Fir, Douglas	15	10	M	F-13	P	G	F	P	P	P
Juniper, Rocky Mtn.	12	9	M	E-8	F	G	G	G	E	E
Pine, Limber	10	9	S	G-10	P	G	F	F	P	P
Pine, Ponderosa	17	12	M	G-10	F	G	F	F	P	P
Pine, Scotch	17	12	M	G-10	P	P	G	P	P	P
Redcedar, Eastern	10	9	M	G-10	F	G	G	G	E	E
Spruce, Black Hills	12	9	S	G-10	F	E	F	P	P	P
Spruce, Colorado Blue	15	10	M	G-10	P	E	F	P	P	P

R=Rapid M=Moderate S=Slow E=Excellent G=Good F=Fair P=Poor

Almond, Russian

(*Prunus tenella*)

20 Year Height: 4 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: upright, suckering

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: excellent nesting and food source for birds

Flowers: abundant pink to rose

Other: prefers loamy soils



Buffaloberry, Silver

(*Shepherdia argentea*)

20 Year Height: 10 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: loosely branched thorny shrub

Drought Resistance: excellent

Wildlife Value: ideal cover, nesting, and browse; good late winter food source

Disease: stem decay, branch canker

Other: well-adapted to dry, moderately alkaline, and saline soils; berries used for jellies; fixes nitrogen



Caragana

(*Caragana arborescens*)

20 Year Height: 12 feet

Growth Rate: rapid

Growth Habit: erect, oval shrub

Drought Resistance: excellent

Wildlife Value: used for nesting

Flowers: small showy yellow

Pests: blister beetles

Disease: stem decay, leaf spot and branch cankers

Other: produces pods with multiple seeds



Cherry, Nanking

(*Prunus tomentosa*)

20 Year Height: 7 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: upright, semi-spreading

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: fruit for songbirds, browse

Flowers: small pink

Disease: branch cankers

Other: prefers loamy soils, short-lived, excellent fruit for pies and jellies



Chokecherry, Common

(*Prunus virginiana*)

20 Year Height: 10 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: oval to rounded, suckering

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: excellent for food and cover

Flowers: creamy-white

Pests: prairie tent caterpillar

Disease: "western" x-disease, black knot, stem decay, shothole canker

Other: purple leaf selections for landscaping, adapted to wide variety of soils, fruits for jellies



Cotoneaster, Centennial

(*Cotoneaster integerrima*)

20 Year Height: 10 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: spreading, open and upright arching branches

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: fruit attracts birds

Flowers: pinkish-white

Pests: pear slug

Disease: fireblight

Other: showy red berries, should not be planted near crabapples

Currant, Golden

(*Ribes aureum*)

20 Year Height: 6 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: upright, spreading

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: roosting, loafing, nesting and food for birds

Flowers: fragrant golden-yellow

Pests: currant worm

Disease: anthracnose, leafspots, white pine blister rust host

Other: berries used fresh and for jelly



Dogwood, Redosier

(*Cornus sericea*)

20 Year Height: 7 feet

Growth Rate: rapid

Growth Habit: loose and rounded, many stems

Drought Resistance: poor

Wildlife Value: dense cover and food source

Flowers: creamy

Disease: twig blight

Other: dark, blood-red bark provides winter color

Honeysuckle, Blueleaf

(*Lonicera korolkowii*)

20 Year Height: 8 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: spreading

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: nesting and food

Flowers: yellow-pink

Other: plant only Russian aphid resistant cultivars



Lilac, Common

(*Syringa vulgaris*)

20 Year Height: 6 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: upright, leggy, suckering

Drought Resistance: excellent

Wildlife Value: little value for fruit or browse, songbird nesting

Flowers: white to purple, fragrant and showy

Pests: lilac borer

Disease: powdery mildew

Plum, American

(*Prunus americana*)

20 Year Height: 10 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: round-headed crown, suckers freely

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: important for nesting, loafing, browse and food

Flowers: white

Pests: prairie tent caterpillar

Disease: stem decay, branch cankers, black knot, plum pockets

Other: thorny, winter-hardy, thicket-forming tall shrub with edible fruit



Rose, Woods

(*Rosa woodsii*)

20 Year Height: 6 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: stems upright, semi-weeping

Drought Resistance: fair

Wildlife Value: excellent food source, nesting and cover

Flowers: showy pink

Other: fruit referred to as a rose hip and a source of Vitamin C

Sandcherry, Western

(*Prunus pumila*)

20 Year Height: 4 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: open, spreading shrub

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: good loafing, food source and browse

Flowers: white

Disease: leaf curl, black knot, fireblight

Other: relatively short-lived, fruit for pies and jellies



Serviceberry, Saskatoon

(*Amelanchier alnifolia*)

20 Year Height: 10 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: upright

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: high quality cover and food

Flowers: white

Other: nutritious fruit used fresh, frozen or processed

Silverberry

(*Elaeagnus commutata*)

20 Year Height: 6 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: narrow, upright, suckers profusely

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: dense thickets and food source

Pests: subject to damage by rabbits

Disease: branch cankers

Other: silver-white leaves



Sumac, Skunkbush

(*Rhus trilobata*)

20 Year Height: 8 feet

Growth Rate: slow

Growth Habit: ascending, new branchlets hairy

Drought Resistance: excellent

Wildlife Value: fall and winter food for birds

Flowers: light yellow

Other: scented leaves

Crabapple, Siberian

(*Malus baccata*)

20 Year Height: 15 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: round to spreading

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: fair cover, good fruit and browse

Flowers: white

Pests: cankerworm, apple maggot

Disease: fireblight, cedar-apple rust, apple scab, canker

Other: needs a well-drained, moist soil; should be protected from girdling or browsing; should not be planted near juniper, cedar or cotoneaster



Hawthorn, Arnold

(*Crataegus arnoldiana*)

20 Year Height: 16 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: upright to horizontal, symmetrical

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: nesting, food and browse

Pests: rust, aphid

Flowers: white with a disagreeable odor

Other: tolerates urban pollution, large thorns

Maple, Amur

(*Acer ginnala*)

20 Year Height: 15 feet

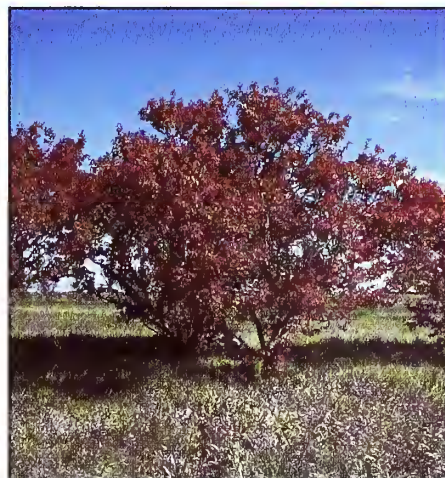
Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: multi-stemmed

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: browse, fair cover

Other: adaptable to a variety of soils, except alkaline, sensitive to phenoxy herbicides, outstanding bright reddish fall colors



Olive, Russian

(*Elaeagnus angustifolia*)

20 Year Height: 17 feet

Growth Rate: rapid

Growth Habit: branches random and spreading

Drought Resistance: excellent

Wildlife Value: excellent

Disease: branch and stem cankers

Other: tolerates saline/alkaline soils, may invade unmanaged bottomlands and moist pastures, thorny, silver leaf color; not to be planted in riparian areas

Ash, Green

(*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*)

20 Year Height: 18 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: single trunk, oval to elliptical crown

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: nesting site

Pests: cankerworms, ash borers, ash plant bugs

Disease: stem decay, branch and twig cankers, anthracnose, leaf rust, ash yellows

Other: can withstand flooding for short periods of time



Cottonwood, Plains

(*Populus deltoides*)

20 Year Height: 45 feet

Growth Rate: rapid

Growth Habit: upright, branches spread to form a large open crown

Drought Resistance: fair

Wildlife Value: browse

Pests: aphids, gall mite, leaf beetles

Disease: leaf rust, leaf spot and canker, wetwood, stem decay

Other: requires a moist site

Elm, Siberian

(*Ulmus pumila*)

20 Year Height: 25 feet

Growth Rate: rapid

Growth Habit: open with several ascending branches

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: nesting sites

Pests: cankerworm

Disease: canker, wetwood

Other: highly sensitive to phenoxy herbicides, brittle wood which is subject to breakage



Hackberry, Common

(*Celtis occidentalis*)

20 Year Height: 15 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: single trunk, broadening crown

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: fruit for birds and mammals

Pests: commonly damaged by browsing rodents, rabbits and deer

Other: good replacement for the elm because of its similar form and adaptability, somewhat tolerant to alkaline soils

Honeylocust

(*Gleditsia triacanthos*)

20 Year Height: 20 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

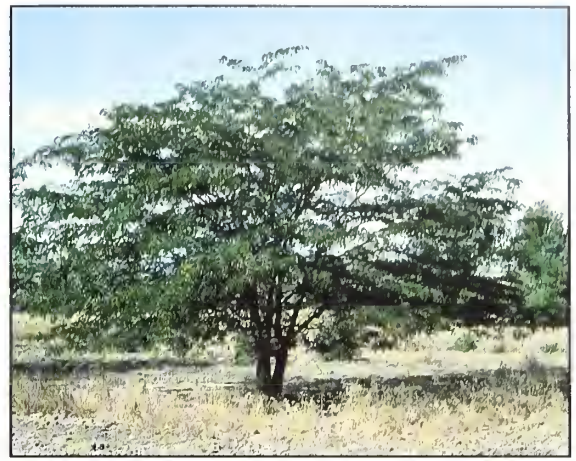
Growth Habit: develops a deep tap root system

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: food and nesting sites for birds

Disease: relatively disease free but can develop a canker

Other: thorns present, fine leaves, legume



Oak, Bur

(*Quercus macrocarpa*)

20 Year Height: 18 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: stout branches, informal spreading to rounded

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: excellent food and cover

Pests: commonly damaged by rodents, rabbits and deer

Disease: leaf and twig anthracnose, leaf curl, stem decay

Other: long lived tree with deep taproot

Poplar, White

(*Populus alba*)

20 Year Height: 25 feet

Growth Rate: rapid

Growth Habit: upright with strong spreading branches

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: browse, fair nesting

Other: numerous root sprouts



Willow, Golden

(*Salix alba*)

20 Year Height: 25 feet

Growth Rate: rapid

Growth Habit: large, spreading to round crown

Drought Resistance: fair

Wildlife Value: provides cover, browse

Pests: aphids

Other: branches shed easily

Fir, Douglas

(*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)

20 Year Height: 15 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: open pyramidal

Drought Resistance: fair

Wildlife Value: good nesting sites for birds

Pests: Douglas fir beetle, deer browse and rubbing

Disease: heartwood decay

Other: tolerates alkali soils



Juniper, Rocky Mountain

(*Juniperus scopulorum*)

20 Year Height: 12 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: dense pyramidal, upward reaching branches

Drought Resistance: excellent

Wildlife Value: excellent food, nesting, and cover

Pests: spider mites

Disease: cedar-apple rust, tip blight

Other: should not be planted near crabapples, juneberries, currants or hawthorns

Pine, Limber

(*Pinus flexilis*)

20 Year Height: 10 feet

Growth Rate: slow

Growth Habit: open crown

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: good nesting for birds

Pests: blister rust

Other: pitchy cones



Pine, Ponderosa

(*Pinus ponderosa*)

20 Year Height: 17 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: pyramidal when young

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: food and nesting for birds

Pests: tip moth, sawfly, pine needle scale, aphids

Disease: needle cast, gall rust

Other: tolerates saline and alkaline soils

Pine, Scotch

(*Pinus sylvestris*)

20 Year Height: 17 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: rounded and open

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: nesting and winter cover

Pests: tip moth, sawfly, pine needle scale, aphids

Disease: needle cast, gall rust

Other: prefers moist well-drained soils



Redcedar, Eastern

(*Juniperus virginiana*)

20 Year Height: 10 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: dense pyramidal

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: excellent food, nesting and cover

Pests: spider mites

Disease: cedar-apple rust, tip blight

Other: should not be planted near crabapples, juneberries, or hawthorns

Spruce, Black Hills

(*Picea glauca*)

20 Year Height: 12 feet

Growth Rate: slow

Growth Habit: broad pyramidal to conical crown

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: nesting, browse, good cover

Pests: spider mite, spruce needle miner, pine needle scale, yellow-headed spruce sawfly, aphids

Disease: needle blight

Other: grows best on moist loams



Spruce, Colorado Blue

(*Picea pungens*)

20 Year Height: 15 feet

Growth Rate: moderate

Growth Habit: branching is broad and dense, branches extending to ground

Drought Resistance: good

Wildlife Value: nesting site

Pests: spider mites, spruce needle miner, pine needle scale, yellow-headed spruce sawfly, aphids

Disease: needle cast, canker, needle blight

Other: performs best on moist, well-drained loams

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Contact your local soil conservation district office for assistance in designing your tree planting.

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ND Tree Handbook

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